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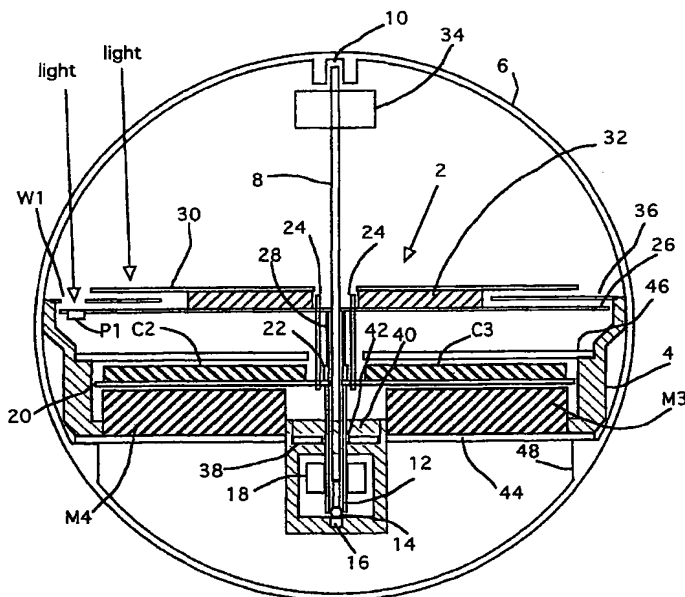
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(54) Title: OPTICALLY COMMUTATED SELF-ROTATING DRIVE MECHANISM



(57) Abstract: A self-rotating enclosure (6) containing an electric motor (4) particularly suited for use in very low power and low speed applications, including a counter-torque producing magnet (34). The motor comprises magnets (M3,M4) which generate magnetic fields to interact with currents in coils of wire (C2,C3) to generate relative rotational motion between an armature assembly (2) and the motor case (4). A shutter (36) with a window (W1) controls light incident on photoresistor (PI) to energize a coil, (C2), and similarly other photoresistors control other coils to cooperatively generate relative rotation. The preferred embodiment uses photovoltaic cells (30) to provide the electric current.

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